AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1-4. (cancelled).
- (Previously Amended) A side pocket mandrel comprising: 5.

Fax:7132668510

- an axially elongated tube having an enlarged diameter section a.
- an inner volume formed in said enlarged diameter section b.
- a filler material positioned in said inner volume, said filler e. material preventing cement from occupying a substantial volume within said inner volume while also allowing placement of a valve element, wherein the filler material comprises surface discontinuities that comprise transverse jet channels formed to induce fluid flow turbulence.
- (Previously Amended) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 10 6. wherein said filler material comprises surface discontinuities formed to induce fluid flow turbulence.
- 7. (Original) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 6 wherein said surface discontinuities comprise surface upsets.
- 8. (cancelled)
- (cancelled) 9.
- 10. (Previously Amended) A side pocket mandrel comprising:
 - an axially elongated tube having an enlarged diameter section a.

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- b. an inner volume formed in said enlarged diameter section
- c. a filler material positioned in said inner volume, said filler material preventing cement from occupying a substantial volume within said inner volume while also allowing placement of a valve element, wherein said filler material comprises a plurality of independent increments and wherein each of said independent increments of filler material is separated from adjacent increments.
- 11. (Previously Amended) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 10 wherein each of said independent increments of filler material is welded to a tube wall enclosing said inner volume.
- 12. (Previously Amended) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 10 wherein said filler material is aligned in substantially parallel rows on opposite sides of said workspace channel.

13-14. (cancelled)

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- 15. (Previously Presented) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 5, wherein said filler material comprises a plurality of guide sections.
- 16. (Previously Presented) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 5 further comprising a cylinder bore enclosure positioned in said inner volume.
- 17. (Previously Presented) A side pocket mandrel as described by claim 16, wherein at least one of said guide sections is positioned axially below said cylinder bore enclosure.

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18-26 (cancelled)-

- 27. (Previously Amended) A production string producing a fluid from a wellbore drilled in a subterranean formation, comprising:
 - (a) a production tube adapted to be at least partially cemented in the wellbore; and
 - (b) at least one mandrel positioned along said production tubing, the mandrel having an enlarged diameter section, a filler material positioned in said inner volume, said filler material preventing cement from occupying a substantial volume within said inner volume while also allowing placement of a valve element, wherein said filler material comprises a plurality of independent increments and wherein each of said independent increments of filler material is separated from adjacent increments.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The production string of claim 27, wherein the at least one mandrel includes an upper and a lower assembly joint each having a diameter smaller than a diameter of the enlarged diameter section, said upper and lower assembly joints separated by a length selected to maintain a pressure on a plug traveling through said mandrel.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The production string of claim 28 further comprising a guide positioned in said mandrel, said guide keeping said plug within a primary flow bore axis of said mandrel.

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- 30. (Previously Amended) The production string of claim 28 further comprising a guide positioned in said mandrel, said guide keeping said plug within a primary flow bore axis of said mandrel.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The production string of claim 27 wherein said enlarged diameter section includes a channel for insertion of a valve element into said valve housing.
- 32. (Previously Presented) The production string of claim 27 wherein said enlarged diameter section has an interior volume that includes a surface discontinuity that induces the fluid flow turbulence.
- 33. (Previously Presented) The production string of claim 27 wherein said surface discontinuity includes one of (i) surface upsets, (ii) indentations, and (iii) transverse jet channels.